



BULLETIN OF THE **ORIENTAL ESOTERIC CENTER**

Vol. VIII

Friday, October 18, 1912

No. 36

ESOTERISM AND OTHER SCHOOLS OF ORIENTAL AND MODERN THOUGHT

While we have the broadest tolerance for the points of view of other men, yet Esoterism has a very definite and practical teaching of its own.

To inquirers the difference between the various schools and our own are difficult to perceive, so that we are constantly asked to draw some clear lines of demarcation between them. This we are always loath to do, because Esoterism, being synthetic, looks rather to the points of agreement than at differences. However, as we are receiving many inquiries, it seems desirable to say in a definite way what Esoterism stands for.

This is not, however, done in a sectarian spirit, or with the intention of disparaging the ideas of others, for every aspect of truth is valuable, and no school can, moreover, speak with authority on the teachings of another.

We believe that all of the schools along lines of Oriental and modern thought have each their special characteristic and value to the world, for they represent various stages of advancement and in this respect will supply the needs of the people at those various stages. It is presumed that every school follows its highest ideal, and as all ideals are good for certain people at certain stages of their progress, it follows that each school has its just place in the world. It becomes a matter for the individual judgment of the one required to make choice as to which ideal seems best to meet his needs at the time. The various schools are like various paths, more to be harmonized than contrasted, all leading through the same gate.

All those who are striving for the upliftment of the race along humanitarian, scientific, or esoteric lines, have the protection, even

though it may be unknown to themselves, of more advanced Souls, and of these there is one great Brotherhood who are working through various Societies and indeed through all who are seeking to aid humanity.

H. P. Blavatsky, the Founder of the Theosophical Society, was in touch with Them, and was the first to bring these truths to the Western World.

The Oriental Esoteric Society, while it has no connection with the Theosophical Society of today, is in direct touch with Those who are guiding humanity and pointing out the Path upwards.

Our Society differs from most others, we think, in its methods of procedure. This distinction is nowhere better emphasized than in the table on Page 40, of "What Esoterism Is" by our President, Miss A. E. Marsland.

The following is part of the table referred to. While Esoterism values primarily the methods in the first column, most of the other schools seem to emphasize certain groups of those in the second column, especially the first eight.

ESOTERISM VALUES

<i>Primarily,</i>	<i>Secondarily</i>
Synthetic Teachings,	Analytical Teachings
Spiritual Teachings	Intellectual teachings
Study of the Whole	Study in detail and parts
Harmony and Oneness	Discussion of differences
Silence	Speech
Concentration of Force,	Diffusion
Creative Constructive Work	Reading and repeating ideas of others.
Development of Will	Yoga Practices
Faith	Belief
Humility	"Affirmations"
Willingness to Suffer	Mental Suggestions
Positive Action in Formation of Character.	Treatments for Success.
Non-resistance	Resignation.

IDEALS OF ESOTERISM

<i>Primarily</i>	<i>Secondarily,</i>
Watchword is "Service"	God-Consciousness, Knowledge
	Hero-Worship
	Emotional Experiences.
Method is "Work for Others"	Work for Spiritual Attainment
	Study and Self-Culture
In sleep to rise at once to the Spiritual Plane.	Seek attainment of some special aim during sleep.

Other schools, while recognizing the beauty of our ideals, as set forth in the first column, yet seem to put a still higher estimate

on some grouping of the methods which are placed by us in the second place. One school will emphasize, perhaps, the first eight of the second column rules of life; another will consider that Yoga practices are all important; yet another will place before all other ideals Mental Suggestions and Affirmations.

All belong to one of two great schools of thought: the egoistic and the altruistic. The egoistic school holds that true progress is best effected by giving paramount attention to the perfecting of the individual. The altruistic school looks first to the good of the whole and second to that of the individual as such.

Esoterism is essentially of the altruistic school, believing that only through concentration on the good of the *Whole* is the perfection of either the individual or the whole to be brought about; that he who considers himself and his destiny as apart and separate from that of his fellow-man and the rest of creation, must necessarily be narrowed in his view and is likely to end in pure self-seeking; that the life of each one of us is inextricably interwoven with the destiny of every other one and of the whole, and that therefore only that thought and action can have permanent good results which are performed with a knowledge of the interests of the Whole and a determination to work for the universal perfection.

At the present stage of our progress, most of us are inclined to think of ourselves and our own interests more than we should. To this tendency esoterism supplies a much needed check.

The keynote of esoterism is "To rise by raising others," a method through which man attains not only to self-culture and personal perfection, but reaches especially to a higher and wider conception of the grandeur of the Whole and of the infinite possibilities of the individual. Thus, instead of only a few souls outstripping their race and becoming Masters, humanity is aided to move *en masse* to perfection, vitalized daily more and more strongly with the altruistic principle of the Universal Brotherhood of Man.

TO OUR MEMBERS

It is a great source of joy to us to note at the present juncture the love and appreciation shown in the letters we are receiving from all sides. You may rest assured that we shall do all that is possible to be done to protect our name and our work, so that you may continue to receive through our means those Great Teachings which it is our mission to give out.

You well know that all that we have done in the past has been undertaken under the guidance of Those Who are back of our Work, and you will pardon us for making no answer to the quibbles and derogatory statements that are being so insistently put forth.

We have a full and sufficient answer to all that has been, or can be, said, and a great mass of evidence in proof of every important point.

Our Work and our Teachings speak for themselves. "By their fruits ye shall know them."

The Bulletin is published weekly by the Oriental Esoteric Society
at 1443 Q Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Annual Subscription, \$1.00 6 months, 50c 3 months, 25c Single copy, 10c

Entered as second-class matter June 19, 1909, at the Post-office at Washington, D. C.,
under Act of March 3, 1879

Through every fiber of my brain,
Through every nerve, through every vein,
I feel the electric thrill, the touch
Of life, that seems almost too much.
O Gift of God! O perfect day,
Whereon shall no man work, but play;
Whereon it is enough for me,
Not to be doing, but to be!
—Longfellow, *A Day of Sunshine*

OBJECTS OF THE O. E. S.

The objects of the O. E. Society are three-fold:

1. By Aspiration, by Knowledge and by Right Living to open up a passage between earth and heaven, through which the light of true spirituality may shine and illumine humanity.
2. To collect and appropriate these rays, to adapt them and make them available for the aid and enlightenment of all classes of men.
3. The diffusion of this Truth and the gathering into the ranks of membership those who are in sympathy with the aims of the Society.

PINS AND PENDANTS

suitable for watch fobs and ladies' chains, bearing the Symbol of the Society in blue, gold and white, may be had by addressing the Secretary O. E. S., 1443 Q St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Solid Gold, with safety catch.....	\$3.50
Gold filled, with safety catch.....	1.00
Gold plated, no safety catch.....	.75
Gold filled, no safety catch.....	.50
Pendants—Solid Gold, \$3.50; Gold filled, \$1.00.	

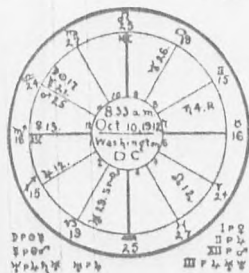
BOOKS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE O. E. S.

Those interested in occultism will find the following books by the President of the O. E. Society helpful in obtaining an introduction to the subject: *What Esoterism Is*—paper 35 cents, cloth 50 cents; *First Principles of Esoterism*—cloth \$1.00, limp yellow leather \$1.50. Other books by the President: *The Way*—daintily bound in paper, 10 cents; *Noontide Meditations*—paper 25 cents, cloth 50 cents, leather \$1.00.

ASTROLOGICAL FORECAST

for the lunar month beginning Oct. 10, 1912.

This forecast applies to the United States particularly. The influences of the lunation are general in effect, but individuals are affected much or little by it according to its relationship to their personal horoscopes and the present condition of the latter.



The most marked activity during this lunation, which is also an eclipse and therefore that much more powerful, will be war, strife and contention, indicated by the group of planets on the twelfth cusp, with three others adverse and all adverse to the third and ninth cusps. The elements will battle with the earth in various places and loss of life by fire, water, explosion and other accidents will occur. Within the realm of man similar conditions will obtain and many besides the politician will experience loss and defeat during this period, where they have not consciously lived up to their highest ideal. It is not unlikely that the seeds of a serious conflict between the United States and a foreign power will germinate also.

The occult student or any seeking for a larger life on any plane will need to call into use all the wisdom and will he has to enable him to remain firmly fixed in devotion to the attainment of the ideal he has in mind. The balanced, broad, unprejudiced view will be difficult to maintain and he will find himself switched off into the trivial, the unnecessary and the partizan very frequently. Growth and self control come through the mastery of obstacles and there will be abundant opportunity to develop both afforded to the sincere seeker at this time.

Money affairs and the honor of those in high office are under fairly good aspects, though not entirely so. Widespread labor troubles of an extreme type are indicated by Mars in Libra ruling the sixth and opposing that cusp, especially among the mechanical and textile trades.

Travelers should use all reasonable precautions, as accidents are strongly indicated both by land and water. Employees of government and charitable institutions should be on their guard against fires and explosions. Venus in Scorpio in opposition to the seventh cusp and with Saturn therein and with Neptune afflicted in the house of law points to matrimonial scandals, divorce and crimes in connection therewith. The health of the people will be affected by such complaints as follow from excesses of various kinds.

E. W.

MEDITATION

Silence is the first and the last of the lessons Esoterism would teach the aspirant.

The world is full of the vain babble of tongues, of overmastering desires, of vaulting ambition, agitation and turmoil; man's natural habit of mind is restless, nervous, and uneasy, and he seeks to hide his trouble under a stream of words.

But for him who would live the higher life, silence, calm and repose are first essentials.

It is not alone silence from speech that is demanded; the lesson goes much deeper and bids him bring to rest all the vibrations of the lower nature, it teaches the gradual stilling of the desire, the return of the soul from selfishness, from a dissipation of the forces, from the love of much reading and acquisition, from analysis and far wanderings—to concentration, self-knowledge and creation.

Soul-growth, like growth on the physical plane, is hidden and silent. "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow." Our spiritual growth must be after the manner of the flowers. The seed is hidden in the ground until it swells, bursts its shell and pushes its way up towards the light, following the law silently until the time comes for bloom. So the seeds of Truth must be kept in our hearts until they have become a part of our very being when we have made them our own. Then comes the bloom. Speech will come, and out of our own hearts we can give to those who seek, wisely and judiciously. Thus we come to know that silence is golden, and that our teachers were wiser than we when they made silence one of the first requisites for him who would advance spiritually.

SILENCE.

1. Silence is the element in which great things fashion themselves.
2. All growth is silent; he uproots his strength
Who struggles here to make a brother grow.
3. Reading, talking and the hearing of lectures are all good, but silence is better, for in the Silence the soul grows.
4. The disciple gives in silence, and asks for nothing in return; in silence he accepts whatever joy or whatever pain is sent to him, seeing in each the same Fatherly hand.
5. Esoterism gathers man's powers to a center and focuses them there; and all about that center there is silence.
6. Silence, calm and repose are the first essentials to a higher life.
7. Learn then, every day, Silence; it is the price paid for advancement.

BOOKS FOR SALE AND RENT BY THE ORIENTAL ESOTERIC LIBRARY, 1443 Q STREET N. W.

Upon *first* request any book or books up to the value of two dollars will be loaned free.

Renting Terms:—Two weeks or less, ten cents per volume; each succeeding week or fraction of a week, five cents per volume. Time in transit not counted. Cost of transportation both ways at borrower's expense.

A deposit of two dollars or more should be made against which rent and transportation may be charged and should be renewed when falling below one dollar as a standing credit of not less than one dollar is required unless waived by special arrangement.

Figures in () show cost of sending books to the borrower and is charged to him; he prepays transportation when returning books. When books are purchased no transportation is charged, but when rented books are bought after being kept more than two weeks all time in excess of two weeks must be paid for.

Address all communications for the Library to Miss A. E. Marsland, 1443 Q St. N. W., Library Dept.

DEVOTIONAL BOOKS

A Practical Treatise upon Christian Perfection, <i>William Law</i>	1.00	(.05)
Self Renunciation, <i>Abbe Guillore</i>	1.00	(.06)
Poems and Proverbs, <i>George Herbert</i> .....	.40	(.04)
Light, Life and Love, a Selection from the German Mystics, ed. by <i>W. R. Inge</i> .....	.75	(.04)
The Little Flowers of St. Francis d'Assisi, translated by <i>W. Heywood</i> .....	.75	(.04)
The Spiritual Guide, <i>Michael de Molinos</i> .....	.75	(.03)
Buddhist Catechism, <i>H. S. Olcott</i> .....	.40	(.03)
Heaven and Its Wonders and Hell .....	.68	(.18)
The Doctrine of the Heart		
.....paper, .15; leather, .75; cloth .....	.50	(.03)
The Spirit of St. Francis de Sales, <i>Jean Pierre Camus</i> ..	1.00	(.06)
The Devout Life, <i>St. Francis de Sales</i> .....	.40	(.04)
Of the Love of God, <i>St. Francis de Sales</i> , translated by <i>Lear</i>	1.00	(.06)
Spiritual Letters of <i>St. Francis de Sales</i>	1.00	(.05)

BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The Story of the Iliad, <i>Alfred J. Church</i>	1.00	(.11)
The Story of the Odyssey, <i>Alfred J. Church</i>	1.00*	(.11)
Celtic Fairy Tales, <i>Joseph Jacobs</i> , illustrated	1.25	(.14)
English Fairy Tales, <i>Joseph Jacobs</i> , illustrated	1.25	(.12)
Indian Fairy tales, <i>Joseph Jacobs</i> , illustrated	1.75	(.16)

The Path to Perfection, <i>Swami Ramakrishnananda</i> .	paper..	.15	(.02)
The Soul of Man, <i>Swami Ramakrishnananda</i>		1.00	(.06)
The Universe and Man, <i>Swami Ramakrishnananda</i> ..		1.08	(.08)
Christ, the Messenger, <i>Swami Vivekananda</i> ..paper..		.25	(.02)
Inspired Talks, <i>Swami Vivekananda</i>		1.25	(.10)
The Kabbalah Unveiled, <i>S. L. MacGregor Mathers</i> ..		3.50	(.16)
The Glimpse; an Adventure of the Soul, <i>Arnold Bennett</i>		1.20	(.11)
Nightmare Tales, <i>H. P. Blavatsky</i> (not sold).....			(.05)
The Coming Race, <i>E. Bulwer-Lytton</i>		1.00	(.11)
A Strange Story, <i>E. Bulwer-Lytton</i>.....		.75	(.11)
Zanoni, <i>E. Bulwer-Lytton</i>.....		.60	(.13)
Three often quoted occult stories by Bulwer-Lytton.			
"The Dweller on the Threshold" is found in Zanoni.			
The Blossom and the Fruit, a True Story of a Black Magician, <i>Mabel Collins</i>		1.25	(.11)
The Idyll of the White Lotus, <i>Mabel Collins</i>		1.00	(.08)
The Throne of Eden, a Psychical Romance, <i>W. J. Cokville</i>		1.00	(.16)
Brother of the Third Degree, <i>W. L. Garver</i>		1.00	(.11)
A story of the black and white brotherhoods in Paris.			

Further book lists will appear from week to week. All books are for sale unless marked "not sold." Buy your books through the Society. We can supply books for purchase even though they are not on our loaning list.

SENTENCES OF CONFUCIUS

TIME

THREEFOLD the stride of Time, from first to last!
 Loitering slow, the FUTURE creepeth—
 Arrow-swift, the PRESENT sweepeth—
 And motionless forever stands the PAST.

Impatience, fret howe'er she may,
 Cannot speed the tardy goer;
 Fear and Doubt—that crave delay—
 Ne'er can make the Fleet One slower;
 Nor one's spell Repentance knows
 To stir the Still One from repose.

If thou would'st, wise and happy, see
 Life's solemn journey close for thee,
 The Loiterer's counsel thou wilt heed,
 Though readier tools must shape the deed;
 Nor for thy friend the Fleet One know,
 Nor make the Motionless thy foe!

—Schiller.